

The PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY

THE AMERICAN BOOKTRADE JOURNAL

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Things or Books?

Mable Arundel Harris

of J. K. Gill Co., Portland, Oregon

WE had come into the mountain fastness over eighteen miles of trail that occasionally wound around the breast of a hill, but which mostly led steeply up precipitous heights and then down and up again. For two weeks we had been fishing the streams or adventuring with a camera back into the timber, and thus had missed the infrequent ranger or fisherman that possibly might have passed our isolated camp. So, when that late afternoon we heard the thud of horses coming down our trail, we rose and went forward to give our visitors, whoever they might be, a joyous greeting.

"They" proved to be one of the "boys", a ranger on the long round of his district. The extra horses were pack animals, now traveling without the loads of provisions he had taken in to the lookout stations.

A compact, yet slender man, no longer in his first youth, he wore that quiet gentleness of manner that marks all true men

of the woods. His stories of animal and bird life and of the surrounding country were told with such understanding and humor that by the time our evening meal was finished we had taken him into our hearts.

A little later as we sat about the fire he exclaimed with delight over the books we had brought in with such cost of energy. We had chosen those books after days of deliberation, for we had learned from previous disappointment that some books which read goldenly in a lighted city cannot hold one at all in camp. A book must be sincerely written to stand the test of being read in the high hills.

Several of our books he had not read, and he eagerly accepted our offer to lend him these.

"Perhaps," he said, "you would like this? I see you haven't it," and he pulled from his pocket a thin volume. I took it in my hands. It was a copy of Emerson's

"Essays," the pigskin cover worn soft and flexible and polished to a warm brown by years of handling. My fingers from long habit opened the pages and without meaning intrusion found the fly-leaf.

"To Harvey," I read, "on his graduation—"

Hurriedly I turned the page. I looked out from our camp fire. The rush of the river came to my ears and from our mountain meadow the lonely clang of his bell horse feeding with the others. High about us rose the black silhouettes of the broken peaks. I turned from the mountains and the stars and looked at the man . . . on his graduation! . . . years ago that! And he had carried this book how many times to companion his solitary nights?

Did the giver of that long ago graduation offering know how great had been his gift? . . . and what had happened to the inevitable cuff links, tie pin, ties, handkerchiefs and other finery? What poverty of imagination is it that makes loving friends use these inadequate mere things to mark so great a milestone as a commencement? What, in such ephemeral odds and ends, is there to express the dreams of the bright future, the desire to save from their mistakes, the hope that this youth may start where they left off, the love that desires him to develop to his fullest?

Those inevitable gifts of things, and this companion for a lifetime. This companion that had taken the trail with him, that had deepened his understanding of himself and of his fellows, that had helped him in time of hurt and stress keep a courageous attitude, that had helped him develop a mellowing sense of humor, that had helped him to a fuller appreciation of all the beauty that is life.

Our friend rode away in the next morning's sunshine and that camp fire faded into gray ashes years ago; but I like the remembrance of that meeting in the woods. Especially do I like to have the remembrance come back to me when the ways and the means of making the cash register jingle make for a temporary forgetfulness of what a book really is and what it may mean in the life of an individual, and particularly when that individual is a boy or girl just beginning life. The bookseller, more than most professional men and women, needs to keep his vision.

But how can we share that vision with the thousands of loving friends and relatives who will shortly be buying the gift that will mark commencement for the youth they have watched with pride? How can we "sell" them the idea that the book is the best gift of all?

What to do?

Most of them will buy what is most attractively presented—what is made easiest for them to buy. At any rate, we, that is, the J. K. Gill Company, are going to begin this year early, in May, to make our first table displays of books as suggestions for the graduation gift. By the end of May, we shall have a number of tables dedicated to the commencement gift idea.

With a sign reading something like this:

These books { *have lived.*
 will live.

Give a Graduation Gift
 that will live.

We will arrange a table of popular classics, and Emerson's "Essays" will be among them. Another table will have books about birds and flowers. Our sign for this will probably be:

Give a Graduation Gift
 That will help interpret
 The Out-of-doors.

The third will have poetry with a sign reading:

Graduation = Youth
Youth = Poetry
Make your Graduation Gift Poetry.

For a table of biography and histories, we will use a sign something like this:

A Graduation Gift Should inspire.
Here are Great Deeds
 and
Noble Achievements.

A globe and a map and, perhaps, some railway time-tables will help dress the next

table with books about far-off places. This sign will be:

*These places invite . . .
They challenge . . .
Give books about them
for Graduation Gifts.*

The beginning of the school year is really the time to push the sale of Graduation and Memory Books. But a display of them with the sign:

*Keep a record of these happy days.
Graduation-Memory Books*

ought to invite inspection and, we hope, purchase of a goodly number. A table of fine editions and with books on the arts will have a sign something like this:

*A beautiful book is a gift for a
Lifetime.
What better Graduation Gift?*

Every table will display attractively wrapped books with appropriate greeting cards tucked into each package.

Tie-in with suggestive windows will be the next step. Windows should emphasize the *idea* of the book as the ideal commencement gift. Several books from each grouping should be included in the display together with, if possible a figure in cap and gown or some other suggestive symbol, such as a diploma tied with a ribbon.

We are hoping to use the letters and the colors of several of our colleges and high schools both in the book department and in the windows. We will do this with crêpe papers and with pennants.

Newspaper advertising and advertisements in the school papers will carry the message still further. Letters to the graduating classes and to their parents should sell not only books as gifts but should make new friends and strengthen old ties for the store.

As a further adventure into the minds of the public, we are going to have a reception honoring Sabra Conner, a

Portland High School teacher, whose first book, a beautifully fictionized page of Oregon history, will be ready this spring. Miss Conner has done some very interesting work with her own high school literature groups and these groups and other literary groups from the other high schools, and teachers and members of the English and the History classes and the High School of Commerce Graduating Class will be sent invitation cards.

We plan to send out altogether about five hundred invitations to the reception. If they all accept and come at the same hour, our walls will bulge, but the hours will be from two until five, and we are going to emulate Columbus and "take a chance." To tie-up to this reception, there will be a window filled with "The Quest of the Sea Otter" with the original colorful painting for the "jacket," a colored map, enlarged from the end-sheets, a painting of Miss Conner by a local artist, another, a cartoon of her as a pirate, and some historical matter of interest.

These will be some of the material things we plan to do to put the thought of books into the minds of the searchers for the perfect graduation gift. But animating and inspiring every contact, back of it all, I hope my fellow workers and myself can remember that, tho it always is a privilege to sell a book to a boy or girl, it is especially so when that book is for the commencement gift. I hope we can remember that commencement is the commencing of a new experience, the beginning of a new life. I hope we can remember a fine book can comfort in lonely places, give solace in pain, teach humility and wisdom, give light-hearted laughter in dull hours, be an everlasting challenge to the mind and spirit. And what riches we have from which we may choose, the great poets who

can interpret the visible world to young eyes, the essayists who can reveal the moods of the human mind and soul, the storytellers who have always spoken to the young and young at heart! For what else is the book, when it is an honest book, but the sum-total, the essence of a sensitive soul's feeling and thought, the philosophy built up against time and the immutable stars?



Building a Rare Book Department

Morris H. Briggs

VII

Americana

BOOKSELLERS should stock and sell Americana because it pays a greater return than any other class of material. The demand has been continuous since the days of the early colonists and the supply is constant. There is not a single county in the United States where painstaking investigation will not discover worth-while American historical items. The demand for Americana grows with an increased sense of nationalism. The days of provincialism in American history, literature and commerce are over, and it is no longer necessary to apologize for being an American or for selling American books.

Foreign dealers grasped this truth long ago. English, German, French and Italian booksellers have combed Europe for everything containing even a dash of American interest. They have not done this thru charitable or altruistic motives, but because it paid them in pounds, marks, francs and liras. The time will come when a similar effort will be made in this country. The wise bookseller will never neglect Americana, especially the material at his very door which he can secure readily.

In addition to profits, there is a satisfaction in rescuing valuable historical material which would be destroyed without the intervention of the bookseller. Destruction of valuable Americana occurs daily, and there is no doubt in the minds of those familiar with the facts that it mounts up to a total of millions yearly. Rare letters, pamphlets or manuscripts are lost forever to historians, and information of incalculable value perishes. A very large percentage of the present great historical libraries is due to the efforts of book dealers and book scouts.

At the start, the bookseller should confine himself to local Americana, material

concerning the history of his own town, county, state and section of the country. Some localities have a more interesting history than others, but no section of the United States lacks an historical background. The bookseller should make it a point to become thoroly familiar with local history.

To do this, he should make the acquaintance of the following persons: old settlers and pioneers, local historians and collectors, the local librarian, the president, secretary and librarian of any local historical society, the local editor, the county judge, clerk, sheriff, surveyor and school superintendent and local officials at the city hall. These persons are the most likely sources for historical information and may often have valuable material for sale or know where it may be secured.

As for the material itself, the sources in the order of their value are: (1) Unpublished, (2) Printed, and (3) Oral. Unpublished sources consist of manuscripts, letters, diaries and scrap books. Being unique, these are of great value and importance. Eye-witness and contemporary written material has more historical value than that written later from memory. Printed sources are books, pamphlets, broadsides, maps, views, magazines and newspapers. Historical pamphlets are usually of more value than books since issued unbound and often destroyed. There is no sale for an oral account of some historical happening, but in many cases the bookseller can induce the old settler to write an account of his experiences, which will be of value and interest.

The bookseller will find the nature of local material very varied. In the case of Texas local history, W. P. Webb of the University of Texas has suggested the following as worthy of preservation:

1. History of the County.
 - a. First settlement.
 - b. First town.
 - c. Location of county seat.
 - d. Historic events that have happened in the county.
 - e. Part county has taken in national affairs.
 2. History of the Town.
 - a. First settlement, reason for, date.
 - b. Name of town.
 - c. Coming of railroad.
 - d. Other important events.
 3. History of Buildings and Institutions.
 - a. Courthouse.
 - b. Churches.
 - c. Forts.
 - d. Missions.
 - e. Newspapers.
 - f. Schools.
 - g. Residences.
 - h. Saloons.
 4. History of Development of Natural Resources.
 - a. Mines.
 - b. Oil fields.
 - c. Mineral wells.
 - d. Farms and ranches.
 5. History of Foreign Settlements.
German, Italian, Polish, etc.
 6. Genealogy, Family Histories.
 7. Biography of Interesting Persons.
 - a. Soldiers.
 - b. Texas rangers.
 - c. Politicians.
 - d. Preachers.
 - e. Farmers.
 - f. Cattlemen, cowboys, trail drivers.
 - g. "Bad men."
 - h. Sheriffs and peace officers.
 - i. Old settlers.
 8. History of Events.
 - a. Indian fights and Indian Treaties.
 - b. Political campaigns.
 - c. Cattle stampedes.
 - d. Droughts.
 - e. Floods.
 - f. Feuds.
 - g. Lynchings.
 - h. Revival meetings.
 - i. Law suits.
 - j. Bank robberies.
 - k. Fairs.
 9. Miscellaneous.
- Careful study of this list will be of great value to the indifferent bookseller who may

suppose that nothing of interest historically has happened in his own locality. With little time and effort, he will discover hundreds of printed and written records of events, readily saleable to collectors and librarians locally and in all parts of the country.

Thru experience, the dealer will soon learn to value Americana. He should learn first of all that an item must have genuine and original historical interest to be saleable. He should avoid non-historical material and cheap and popular compilations with the exception of very early imprints. Granting genuine historical interest, the value of any Americana item depends upon supply and demand. Letters, manuscripts and diaries, being unique, are always valuable. Early printed books and pamphlets are usually valuable.

One of the chief reasons for keen demand in the case of many American historical items is the dramatic element. People are interested in the bizarre, the picturesque and the unusual. The bookseller of imagination and judgment will soon realize and capitalize this fact. He will discover this element in connection with many items dealing with famous Americans such as Washington, Franklin, Lee, Lincoln, Burr, etc., with pirates, Indians, outlaws, trappers, soldiers and explorers; with wars, raids, overland trips, gold mining, explorations and early settlements.

He will learn also the logical reasons for scarcity. Early printed items are usually scarce, also items printed in small towns. Books printed in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati by well known publishers are usually common, as they were printed in large editions and had a wide circulation. The same is true for most books termed "subscription books" which were sold by agents. In the case of modern historical books printed in small towns, the author often had one thousand or more copies printed, and sold or gave away perhaps one hundred of these. The balance or "remainder" have an annoying habit of coming on the market in great numbers when least expected. Unless known to be scarce, books of this nature should always be viewed with suspicion.

On March 22, 1927, the item described below was offered for sale at auction in New York City:

"James, Gen. Thomas. Three Years Among the Indians and Mexicans. 8vo. new boards (slightly foxed, blank corner of one leaf torn off). Waterloo, Ill.: Printed at the Office of the 'War Eagle,' 1846."

This booklet brought \$500.00. It brought this price because it was very scarce, being a pamphlet printed in a small town, and because the contents had great dramatic interest, the author having traveled up the Missouri for the Missouri Fur Co., having been a member of the fourth Santa Fe expedition and having traded and fought with the Indians from New Mexico to the Yellowstone. A study of high-priced items will disclose the fact that they bring high prices because they are scarce and, in addition, interesting. The only exception to this rule is found in the case of the very earliest imprints, which gain an arbitrary value from the mere fact of their antiquity.

To discover the dramatic and interesting features of an historical item, it is absolutely necessary for the bookseller to examine carefully all books and other material when cataloging. This has been emphasized several times before in the course

of this series, and the process is essential for describing and valuing a book properly.

There are fads in Americana as in other branches of book collecting, but worthy material of genuine historical interest, scarcity and a touch of the unusual will always be in demand, tomorrow if not today. In fact, the imaginative bookseller of judgment will often foresee the trend of collecting and build up a stock when it can be obtained cheaply. What could be more dramatic than the Meuse-Argonne battle of 1918, where 1,200,000 Americans fought forty-six days in the mud, saturated by cold rains? Lee and Meade had only 165,000 troops all told at Gettysburg. The time is not too far distant when every publication of the A.E.F. in England, France or Germany will bring tremendous prices. They are scarce, interesting and of historical value.

A knowledge of Americana will come gradually to the bookseller. He will avoid most of the pitfalls connected with it by starting at home and gaining his experience day by day in handling and judging local material. But it should never be neglected as being perhaps the most important and profitable class of rare book selling.

Fifty Books of the Year

The Best Examples of Bookmaking Have Been Chosen by the Institute of Graphic Arts and Edwin Grabhorn Has Been Given the Gold Medal

THE fifth annual exhibit of Fifty Books as selected by the jury of the American Institute of Graphic Arts will open at the Grolier Club exhibition room on May 4th, and the public, especially the booktrade, is urged to accept the invitation to look over the volumes. The committee in charge has been headed by David Silve, who is so largely responsible for the growth and success of this annual event.

The plan was developed five years ago out of the discussion that went on among Burton Emmett, W. Arthur Cole and Mr. Silve, and the program as they then set it forth was "to set before American typog-

raphers and publishers the best examples of bookmaking for the year, models for inspiration and study, examples that set a standard for book manufacturers." This year nearly 400 books were sent in, and the jury of selection included Henry W. Kent, director of publications of the Metropolitan Art Museum, Frederic W. Goudy, the noted type designer, and Porter Garnett of the Laboratory Press, Pittsburgh. The jury of each year has consisted of three, with one man, this year, Mr. Kent, who was held over from the previous year, thereby giving a continuity of purpose.

One of the members of the Institute who

A BOOK OF OLD MAPS

Delineating American History from the Earliest Days
Down to the Close of the Revolutionary War

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

EMERSON D. FITE & ARCHIBALD FREEMAN

Professor in Vassar College
Fellow of the American Geographical Society
Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society

Instructor in Phillips Academy
Fellow of the American Geographical Society
Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society



CAMBRIDGE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS
1926

Title-page of "A Book of Old Maps,"
for which Melvin Loos received the
Ommen award

has been closely studying the product submitted this year compared to that of earlier years states that "The product is much better than in 1923. The books are better, book for book, and better as fifty books. There is not much difference in the papers used; many are identical. There is practically no difference in type faces; the Caslon still leads the field. Inks and binding material are unchanged. But the quality of thought put into the books submitted in 1927 is finer and better on the whole than those of five years ago. There is more taste and inventiveness evident in the bindings, and the general trade look has been replaced by something better. The jackets are livelier; cloths more colorful; stamping designs and lettering show improvement. Extra bulk blotting paper is still used on some trade books, but publishers are coming to see that the public will pay as much for a book a half inch thick as for one one and a half inch thick, and perhaps like it better.

Illustrations, both in line and color, are coming back. There has been a tremendous step up in book typography; in fact, it has outdistanced presswork so much that it can easily rest on its oars while the book manufacturer concentrates a bit on improving presswork. Modern machinery and efficiency devices seemingly have brought no benefit to presswork, which has consistently lagged behind. The neglect seems principally lack of sufficient impression (make-ready) and careless inking, running from grays to smudges in the same book."

The committee in charge has been faced with the problem of giving fair consideration to both privately printed and trade books; the actual acceptances have been found to run about half and half. A new

The Letter of Amerigo Vespucci

DESCRIBING HIS FOUR VOYAGES
TO THE NEW WORLD

1497-1504



San Francisco
THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
Mcmxxvi

Title-page of "The Letter of Amerigo Vespucci," which won the Institute's medal

method of giving recognition to both classes has been made possible this year by the contribution of Judge Alfred Ommen of the sum of \$100, to be used in some practical

connection with the exhibit but particularly to encourage the printer himself. It was decided to offer this for the trade book which was deemed to have the most competent execution, and this award was made to "A Book of Old Maps" published by Harvard University Press, executed at the Rudge Press, the award going to Melvin Loos, who, from the first receipt of the manuscript, had complete charge of the production.

The Institute's medal, which has only three times before been awarded in connection with these exhibits, was given by the jury to the Book Club of California for its volume entitled "The Letter of Amerigo Vespucci," the printing of which was done by Edwin Grabhorn. This award seemed particularly fitting, as there were three other books by Mr. Grabhorn of first rate success among those offered, including "Francis Drake, Along the Pacific Coast" by J. W. Robertson, "The Book of Ruth,"

and "The Book of Job." Others who have been given this medal have been D. B. Updike, Bruce Rogers, and Carl Purington Rollins.

In order to give further emphasis to the importance of this medal, the committee decided to establish this year a special class of Books Not in Competition, including single selected books from each of those who have won the Institute medal. The books selected for this special distinction were "The West Window," a privately printed volume executed by Updike, "The Wedgwood Medallion" printed by the Harvard University Press under the supervision of Rogers, and Gray's "Elegy," printed by Rollins.

Among the trade publishers Houghton Mifflin and Alfred A. Knopf had three volumes each, Doran and John Day Company two; single books from Ginn, Harcourt, Harper, Little, Brown, Longmans and Macmillan.

FIFTY BOOKS OF THE YEAR

1927

EXHIBITOR

BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA, San Francisco
"The Letter of Amerigo Vespucci"

(Printed by The Grabhorn Press)

HORACE CARR, Cleveland
"The Mather Literature." By Thomas J. Holmes

THE CENTAUR PRESS, Philadelphia
"Yokohama Garland." By A. E. Coppard (Printed by Pynson Printers), \$10

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, New York
"Short Stories." By Walt Whitman. Collected by Thomas O. Mabbott. Illus.
by Allen Lewis (Printed by The Strawberry-Hill Press), \$4.50

THE JOHN DAY COMPANY, New York
"The Gospel According to St. Luke" (Printed by W. E. Rudge), \$7.50
"The Sorcerer's Apprentice." By Hanns Heinz Ewers. Illus. by Mahlon Blaine
(Printed by Quinn & Boden Co.), \$5.00

GEORGE H. DORAN, New York
"Skazki." By Ida Zeitlin. Illus. by Theodore Nadejen \$5.00
"War Birds." Diary of an unknown aviator. Illus. by Clayton Knight. \$3.50

DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & COMPANY, New York
"The Magnificent Idler." By Cameron Rogers \$2.50

DUNSTER HOUSE BOOKSHOP, Cambridge
"Nobodaddy." By Archibald MacLeish (Printed by Pynson Printers), \$10

FLORIDA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Deland
"Territorial Florida Journalism." By James Owen Knauss
(Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Co.)

GINN & COMPANY, *Boston*

"Astronomy: A Revision of Young's Manual of Astronomy."
By Russell, Dugan & Stewart

THE GRABHORN PRESS, *San Francisco*

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| "Francis Drake." By John W. Robertson | \$15.00 |
| "The Book of Ruth." | \$17.50 |

(See also under Book Club of California)

HARCOURT, BRACE & COMPANY, *New York*

"Primitive Negro Sculpture." By Paul Guillaume & Thomas Munro
(Printed by W. E. Rudge), \$6

HARPER & BROTHERS, *New York*

"Sutter's Gold." By Blaise Cendrars. Woodcuts in color by Cimino. \$2.50

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, *Cambridge*

"The History of the Translation of the Blessed Martyrs of Christ, Marcellinus
and Peter." By Barrett Wendell. (Limited to 500 copies). (Typog-
raphy by Rogers) \$5

"A Book of Maps." Compiled and edited by Emerson D. Fite and Archibald
Freeman (Printed by W. E. Rudge), \$25

(See also under Edgar H. Wells & Co.)

WALTER M. HILL, *Chicago*

"Serenade." By Hugh Western (Printed by The Lakeside Press), \$7.50

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY, *Boston*

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| "Fallodon Papers." By Viscount Grey | \$2.50 |
| "Streets in the Moon." By Archibald MacLeish. (Limited to 500) | \$5.00 |
| "The Yankee Whaler." By Clifford W. Ashley. (1st edition 1,625 copies) | \$20.00 |

ALFRED A. KNOPF, *New York*

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| "The Ghost in the Attic." By George S. Bryan (Printed by The Merrymount Press), \$2.00 |
| "The Mauve Decade." By Thomas Beer (Printed by The Plimpton Press), \$3.50 |
| "Stephen Crane." Vol. XII. Edited by Wilson Follett (Printed by The Plimpton Press), \$90.00 the set |

THE LAKESIDE PRESS, *Chicago*

"Smithfield Preserv'd." By Ivor Brown
(See also under Walter M. Hill)

LITTLE, BROWN & COMPANY, *Boston*

"Balkan Sketches." By Lester G. Hornby \$5

LONGMANS, GREEN & COMPANY, *New York*

"Angela Merici." By Sister M. Monica \$5

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, *New York*

"The World That Was." By John G. Bowman
(Printed by Berwick & Smith Co.), \$1.50

MARINE RESEARCH SOCIETY, *Salem*

"American Clipper Ships." By Octavius T. Howe and Frederick C. Matthews.
(Vols. I and II) (Printed by E. L. Hildreth & Co.), \$25.00

MARSHALL JONES COMPANY, Boston

"Religion in the Philosophy of William James." By Julius Seelye Bixler \$3

THE MERRYMOUNT PRESS, Boston

"Essays and Verses About Books." By Beverly Chew
(See also under A. A. Knopf and Newark Public Library)

EDWIN VALENTINE MITCHELL, Hartford

"Frontier Dust." By John Lord. (Limited to 1,000 copies)
(Printed by D. C. McMurtrie), \$2.50

JOHN HENRY NASH, San Francisco

"Nicolas Jensen, Printer." By Henry Lewis Bullen \$30

NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY, Newark

"Events Which Led to the Development of the Literature of the Middle Ages."
By Thomas L. Raymond (Printed by The Merrymount Press)

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS, Princeton

"Chaucer's Book of Troilus and Criseyde." Edited by Robert K. Root \$6

THE PURDY PRESS, New York

"Sonnets of California." By Fanny Purdy Palmer
(Printed by The Harbor Press)

PYNSON PRINTERS, New York

"Letters of Elizabeth Hitchener to P. B. Shelley"

"Dreams and Derisions"

(See also under Centaur Press, Dunster House Bookshop)

WILLIAM EDWIN RUDGE, New York

"Peronnik The Fool." By George Moore \$12

"The Glory of New York." By Joseph Pennell \$75

"Persephone." By John Drinkwater \$12

(See also under John Day Co., Harcourt, Brace & Co., and Harvard University Press)

TAYLOR & TAYLOR, San Francisco

"A Day in the Hills." Edited by Henry Meade Bland

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, Chicago

"The Outlook for American Prose." By Joseph Warren Beach \$2.50

HAROLD VINAL, New York

"Wind Tossed Leaves." By Victor Zorin
(Printed by The Plandome Press), \$2.50

EDGAR H. WELLS & COMPANY, New York

"Bibliography of the Works of Rudyard Kipling." By Flora V. Livingston
(Printed by The Harvard Press), \$12

THE WINDSOR PRESS, San Francisco

"Cupid and Psyche." By Apuleius \$7.50

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, New Haven

"Prometheus." By Clarence Whittlesey Mendell \$2

"A Background to Architecture." By Seward Hume Rathbun \$4

"Catalogue of the Collection of Engravings in the University Club, New York"

Carl Rollins To Talk on Printing

ON Tuesday, April 26th, there will be an exhibition of fine printing at the Junior League Club, 133 East 61st Street, New York City, for the duration of the week. Carl P. Rollins of the Yale University Press will speak at three o'clock on the books exhibited and on the influence which they have had on printing today. Representative examples of printing will be shown, beginning with Gutenberg, carrying down thru Jensen and Aldus, Caxton, Pynson, John Day, Geoffrey Tory, Plantin, Fournier, Didot, Bodoni, and Baskerville, to the nineteenth century presses and the modern private presses in England today. The books have been borrowed from Junior League members and from interested private collectors in New York. From a large list submitted only the best work from each printer has been selected. The exhibition as a whole should be one of the most interesting in a small way which has been given in New York this year.

Exhibit of Bruce Rogers' Books

LOVERS of good printing and collectors of the work of Bruce Rogers will find much to delight them in an exhibit from Mr. Rogers' own files of his work which is being held at the exhibition room of the Pynson Printers at 239 West 43rd Street, New York. Mr. Adler, head of the Pynson Printers, has two rooms devoted to his library and to book exhibits which are so arranged as to give extremely good space for such purposes.

The collector will find there the best examples of the finest work of Mr. Rogers, including such things as "Rabbi Landsberg," of which only seven copies were printed; such beautiful broadside work as the annual list of officers printed for the Club of Odd Volumes of Boston; numerous Christmas cards, including a tiny little folder with its neat label reading, "Portraits of Washington, illustrated with elegant engravings on steel" and containing within a dozen postage stamps.

Here, also, is the original whimsical layout for the title-page of Joseph Pennell's book on "The Adventures of an Illustrator," a piece of fooling that even Mr. Pennell could not but enjoy; the original

layout of "The Book of Ecclesiastes," the first volume that Mr. Rogers planned after going to the Riverside Press but which was the last to be printed during his stay there. There are a number of such examples showing how he plans a page, indicating, in pencil, drawings, suggesting ornaments and how the page is to be made up, etc.; two pages of the first proofs of "Champfleury," which is being printed for the Grolier Society; two etchings which Mr. Rogers has executed; and a specimen of leather binding also from his hand.

A Memorial to Pennell

WITH the opening at the Library of Congress of the Pennell Exhibit, marking the arrival of the important bequest which Joseph Pennell made to the nation, comes the publication of a volume which reproduces with marvelous fidelity twenty-four of the water colors of Mr. Pennell, a medium in which he was particularly interested at the end of his life. All of these water colors are views from the heights of Brooklyn, where he lived, toward New York, and the collection has been appropriately gathered under the title of "The Glory of New York," with a dozen pages of text by Mrs. Pennell.

"The one thing he asked," says the closing paragraph of this beautiful tribute, "in his last illness was that his bed might be moved close to the windows from which he could look out onto the beauty that all his life had been so dear to him. To me it seems appropriate after years of devotion that the work of his finest and latest period should have been the long series of water colors he has left as a tribute to the glory of New York."

The book is a folio volume, limited to 355 copies, arranged by Bruce Rogers at the Press of William E. Rudge. Mr. Rudge has lavished on the plates all the benefits of his latest experiments in reproducing color by halftone plates. By the process, the halftone plates are run rapidly one after another with intervals of not more than ten or fifteen seconds between each. Then, as they come wet from the last roller, they are dipped in water which dries the ink and sets the color. As a result of this, the exact effect of the water color is kept, and every color seems to have been caught with perfect precision.

THE Publishers' Weekly

The American Book Trade Journal

Founded by F. Lepoldt

EDITORS

R. R. BOWKER F. G. MELCHER
62 W. 45th St., New York City

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April 23, 1927

I HOLD every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto.

—BACON.

Massachusetts and Her Book Ban

THE activity of Boston's District Attorney in proclaiming that certain well-known books would probably be found to violate the Massachusetts law, has found little approval in the Bay State. The leading newspapers have been outspoken and biting in their criticism, and most of the open letters to the press have taken sides against the District Attorney.

A letter to the Springfield *Republican* on April 16th so accurately analyzes the situation and the nature of the problems that face all efforts at censorship that it is printed here in full:

"It is idle to rail against the Suffolk District Attorney for the suppression of 'Elmer Gantry.' Doubtless he was foolish—as he now apparently realizes—to give his opinions in advance as to what books are actionable, and so to constitute himself a censor. Certainly, the Boston booksellers were not courageous in consulting him instead of their own intelligence and consciences. And how chivalrous it is to invite New York publishers to offer themselves in a test case to establish freedom of conscience in Massachusetts!

"But the root of the trouble lies deeper. Suppose a test case were made. If the *American Mercury* could be condemned last year by a Massachusetts judge, surely 'Elmer Gantry' stands a worse chance.

But suppose the bookseller were acquitted. The situation remains absolutely unchanged as regards many other current books, for selling any one of which the vendor runs an excellent risk of finding himself fined and imprisoned. The trouble lies in the law itself.

"There are two difficulties. The first is the inclusion in the Massachusetts statute of the little word 'containing,' i. e., any book is proscribed 'containing obscene, indecent or impure language.' As a result, the work as a whole apparently need not be obscene, but a single passage affords ground for conviction and the remainder of the book is barred from consideration by the jury. A small part was said to be the ground of objection in more than one of the books recently 'banned' in Boston.

"Happily the courts have somewhat tempered with common sense this drastic provision; one judge has ruled, I believe, that the Bible does not fall under it. But surely any book should be considered as a whole and not on the basis of one or more isolated passages.

"The second and fundamental difficulty is that the law ought to apply, as perhaps it was intended to apply, only to deliberate pornography—those vile books and pictures that a generation ago were sold furtively on street corners and in alleys for the delectation of debased minds. There is ample justification for suppressing such publications, because they were largely produced for and sold to the young.

"When you invoke the law to suppress books issued by reputable publishers, sold by reputable booksellers, and read by reputable people, the case is altogether different. There is now, and probably always will be, wide divergence of opinion as to what is decent and wholesome. No man has ever succeeded in framing a legal definition of 'obscene' that comes anywhere near offering a definite test.

"As a result, you will find absurd anomalies and injustice. So innocuous a book as 'Jurgen' is condemned in one state, acquitted in another, and finally reinstated in the first; the *American Mercury* on the same day is acquitted by a judge on one bank of the Charles River and condemned on the other. More unfortunate still, the test is apt to be the frankness of the language or treatment—often really a question

of taste—rather than the demoralizing tendency of the book.

"But even if a definite test could be devised, do we want to prescribe by law what decent citizens shall read and think? Can we ever hope to produce a truly virtuous, self-reliant people by making private morals a matter of law and not of individual conscience? Haven't we learned and shall we never learn by centuries of repeated failure, that it is impossible to legislate morality or religion into people? Do we so easily forget that some of the worst cruelties and tyrannies of history have been perpetrated by good but deluded men in the futile attempt?

"We may admit that some—perhaps many—of the books tolerated by good people today are not fit reading; and I hope they will be so regarded by a later, wiser generation. But is the remedy law, or a quickened individual conscience? The law has not prevented the present changed standards from developing, and the law of itself will never succeed in effecting a cure.

"My own earnest belief is that if the Massachusetts statute can be used to suppress books that numbers of decent people countenance, the sooner it is altered the better. For the state to try to dictate what its responsible adult citizens shall or shall not read and think is sure to be futile, sure to be harmful, and likely to be very dangerous."

(Signed) A MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARIAN.

The Case of Changed Titles

BEFORE and since the publication of James L. Whitney's "A Modern Proteus" in 1884, developed from his department of Antonyms and Synonyms in the early volumes of the *Library Journal*, changed titles have been one of the especial tribulations of librarians and have given rise to many questions within the publishing trade. Librarians rightly criticize the issue of old books under new titles, unless it is made most evident that the material is the same. On the other hand, authors and publishers have good reason to reissue books under changed titles where there is an actual revision or an addition of new material making an appeal in new quarters for a good book which otherwise might be overlooked by additional classes of the reading public. (One publication of last fall illustrates another class of books where a new title, providing there is caution against misleading purchasers, may, however, be desirable. The modern textbook is oftentimes a product of the highest literary workmanship, but it is overlooked by the reading public because it is in the shape of a textbook.)

This case of Breasted and Robinson's histories, revised and reissued as "The Human Adventure," is brought up in the correspondence column of this issue by the librarian of Washington, D. C. As the material covered in these books had aroused considerable popular interest, the authors conceived an opportunity to reach out to the general reader after having been warmly welcomed in the educational field. For reaching the general public, the textbook titles and the textbook format were considered not suitable. The books were handsomely reset, and the authors revised and extended the text. They were thus enabled to reach out toward two different fields of readers. Between these two fields, however, was the public library, appealing to both the student and the general reader, and the librarian, as a user of public funds, must naturally prefer to use the less expensive edition rather than to make the extra appeal to the eye made possible by the new form. The publisher overlooked this confusion to library buyers, and the point is worth emphasizing, as a case of confusion to be avoided.

Publishers, Attention!

CATALOGS for this year's "Publishers' Trade List Annual" are to be delivered to **Thomas Russell & Son's Bindery**, Printing Crafts Building, 8th Ave. & 34th St., New York, instead of Tapley's Bindery as in previous years.

Be sure to send 2,500 copies, full count, carriage prepaid.

R. R. BOWKER CO.

A Great Editor

WHILE every newspaper in the country is reprinting and commenting on Governor Smith's article in the May *Atlantic*, and two newspapers broke the law protecting literary property, in order to beat their competitors with the reprinting, the world of publishing should take occasion to pay its respects to Ellery Sedgwick, brilliant editor of a great magazine which carried out this coup.

No subject that is before American journals for discussion has been so fraught with public interest as the question of church and state as raised by the candidacy of Alfred Smith, yet all had hitherto found no way to handle this explosive subject. It was left for Mr. Sedgwick to find the way and to get for his magazine the credit of handling it. "The Open Letter to Governor Smith" was not prepared by a political opponent or by a church leader. It had the detached character of a legal exposition. Its publication on March twenty-fifth opened the way for the spirited contribution of Governor Smith. That Governor Smith, undoubtedly under great pressure to release his response thru other sources, put it into the hands of Mr. Sedgwick is a tribute to the general appreciation of that editor's outstanding fairness in handling public issues.

Stolen Literary Property

THE *Atlantic Monthly* will do good service to the owners of literary property if they prosecute promptly the Boston *Post* and the New York *Daily News* for the printing in advance of publication Governor Smith's reply to Mr. Marshall.

The public is rather hazy on these rights, but prominent newspapers should not be.

According to the United States Copyright Code of 1909, Section 2, "nothing in this Act shall . . . limit the right . . . of the proprietor of an unpublished work, at common law or in equity, to prevent the . . . use of such unpublished work without his consent or to obtain damages therefor."

The question before the court is as to the amount of direct and punitive damages under the common law.

When the Past is a Guide

THE booktrade has in recent years seen so many different types of books come forward into prominence and then into active sale that it ought to be expectant of new areas of sales opportunity in every season. When travel books were quiet on the shelves, along came Frederick O'Brien's "White Shadows in the South Seas," putting them out on the front counters. Biography, especially of the nineteenth century, was a quiet area, and along came Strachey with his "Victoria," and no store was too small to be able to buy in quantity. The study of world history was restricted to college courses, and then came Wells, and a half million copies were distributed. Did biology sound entirely impossible, Wiggam and Dorsey brought out books that rose immediately to the top of the list of best sellers. Religion was supposed to be a forgotten department in many stores, and Fosdick and Barton lifted it to the front. Educational theory might be considered to belong to the professionals, when Edward Martin writes "The Meaning of a Liberal Education," which can be put out on the front counter. Nothing could be more impossible as an area of popular reading than philosophy, and Dr. Durant puts it ahead of fiction in sales.

Nothing seems alien to the public's reading interest, and no subject can permanently be considered as outside the field of best sellers. Booksellers for the most part now look at new lines that are shown to them and forget the old inhibitions when the stock reply given to the traveling salesman was, "No, I can't buy that—books on science don't sell"; or, "We would like to handle that, but the public never buys books on music"; or, "I think that is a handsome book you have got, but we never did sell books on architecture." Many have been the trips from which the travelers have come back with their enthusiasm for a fine publishing undertaking deflated by a uniformity of such opinions. It may be that they still have this formula passed to them by some booksellers who believe that the public's taste never changes, but the evidences are that the old restrictions are pretty well broken down, and that a good book is a good book in any field whatsoever.

March Best Sellers

"**E**LMER GANTRY," in its first month of publication, has become the best selling book of fiction all over the country, according to the list compiled by *Books of the Month*. This novel by Sinclair Lewis, which attained much newspaper publicity and is the current choice of the Book-of-the-Month Club and the First Edition Club, needs no introduction. Suffice it to say that it was reported as the best seller in Kansas City and is especially popular thruout the Middle West. "Doomsday," third on the list, is particularly popular in the East. "Revelry," at fifth place, is still going strong everywhere. "The Magic Garden," a new title on the list, a romance by Gene Stratton-Porter, was aided in getting sixth place by its good sales thru New York and Pennsylvania. The last four novels on the list all appeared last month in slightly higher positions.

On the non-fiction list, "The Story of Philosophy" is still first but with "Ask Me Another" close behind. The biggest advance has been made by "Napoleon," which has gone from tenth to fourth place in one month. "The Royal Road to Romance" has also gone up this month, from eighth to fifth. At eighth place is a book, published in September, 1925, that has just attained a place among the top ten. This is "The Christ of the Indian Road," by E. Stanley Jones, a book on the Christian missions in India that has had steadily increasing sales during the past few months.

Altho "Elmer Gantry" is undoubtedly the best seller, it is remarkable that in none of the four cities for which special lists were made, was it voted first. Following are the four lists: Baltimore—"Doomsday," "The Plutocrat," "Elmer Gantry"; "Ask Me Another," "The Story of Philosophy," "Napoleon" and "The Royal Road to Romance." New York City—"The Plutocrat," "Elmer Gantry" and "Doomsday," "The Delectable Mountains"; "Ask Me Another," "The Story of Philosophy," "The King's Henchman." St. Louis—"Doomsday," "Elmer Gantry,"

"Revelry" and "The Sea Gull," "The Story of Philosophy," "Napoleon," "Ask Me Another." San Francisco—"The Plutocrat," "Sorrell and Son" and "Revelry" tied, "Elmer Gantry," "Doomsday"; "Ask Me Another," "Napoleon," "The Revolt of Modern Youth."

FICTION

- Lewis. "Elmer Gantry." *Harcourt*. \$2.50.
 Tarkington. "The Plutocrat." *Double-day*. \$2.
 Deeping. "Doomsday." *Knopf*. \$2.50.
 Parrish. "Tomorrow Morning." *Harper*. \$2.
 Adams. "Revelry." *Boni & Liveright*. \$2.
 Stratton-Porter. "The Magic Garden." *Doubleday*. \$2.
 Deeping. "Sorrell and Son." *Knopf*. \$2.50.
 Erskine. "Galahad." *Bobbs-Merrill*. \$2.50.
 Burt. "The Delectable Mountains." *Scribner*. \$2.
 Gibbs. "Young Anarchy." *Doran*. \$2.

NON-FICTION

- Durant. "The Story of Philosophy." *Simon & Schuster*. \$5.
 Spafford & Esty. "Ask Me Another." *Viking Press*. \$1.60.
 Dorsey. "Why We Behave Like Human Beings." *Harper*. \$3.50.
 Ludwig. "Napoleon." *Boni & Liveright*. \$3.
 Halliburton. "The Royal Road to Romance." *Bobbs-Merrill*. \$5.
 Barton. "The Man Nobody Knows." *Bobbs-Merrill*. \$2.50.
 Work. "Auction Bridge Complete." *Winston*. \$2.
 Jones. "The Christ of the Indian Road." *Abingdon*. \$1.
 Anonymous. "War Birds." *Doran*. \$3.50.
 Barton. "The Book Nobody Knows." *Bobbs-Merrill*. \$2.50.

Fun, Frolic and Big Business

*Program of American Booksellers' Association Convention,
Hotel Commodore, New York, May 9th to 12th*

Ellis W. Meyers

Monday, May 9th

Morning: Registration.

Afternoon: Reports of President, Treasurer, Executive Secretary, and Board of Trade.
The Promotion and Legislative Work of the National Association of Book Publishers by Marion Humble, Executive Secretary.

Evening: Get-together dinner dance at the Hotel Commodore.

Tuesday, May 10th

Morning: Talks on "Advertising," Franklin Spier; "Book Trade Conditions Abroad," B. W. Huebsch; "Books and Book Criticism," H. V. Kaltenborn; "Radio Broadcasting of Book News," Richard Montgomery.

Afternoon: "Bookselling Education," E. W. Barnhart; "Selling Old and Rare Books," E. Byrne Hackett; "Religious Books," Rev. J. Fort Newton; "The Work of the Lecture Bureau of the National Association of Book Publishers," Charles Francis Potter.

Evening: Convention Carnival, Park Lane Hotel. A corking good party from ten until two, a great dance floor, good music, cabaret, midnight supper.

Wednesday, May 11th

Morning: Round Table Conferences. Large City Bookstores, Arthur Brentano, Jr., chairman; Small Town Bookstores, Eugene L. Herr, chairman; Department Stores, J. Joseph Estabrook, chairman; College Bookstore Association, H. E. Meese, president; Religious Bookstores, M. R. Turner, chairman.

Afternoon: College Bookstore Association and Religious Bookstore groups will meet again. Accounting and Finance, Lowell Brentano, chairman. Selling Children's Books, May Massee, chairman, conference followed by a tea, and a number of interesting guests are expected.

Evening: Theater party, new Roxy Theater, the Cathedral of Moving Pictures.

Thursday, May 12th

Morning: Executive Session.

Evening: Annual banquet and dance. Speakers: Governor Alfred E. Smith, Bruce Barton, "Roxy," Christopher Morley.

If you have not made room reservations at the Hotel Commodore, write for them soon.

The Committee in charge of the program for the Religious Bookselling Group during the Convention announce the following addresses to be given during their sessions on Wednesday, May 11th:

"Cooperation Between the Publishers and the Sellers of Religious Books," by Walter S. Lewis, Harper & Brothers.

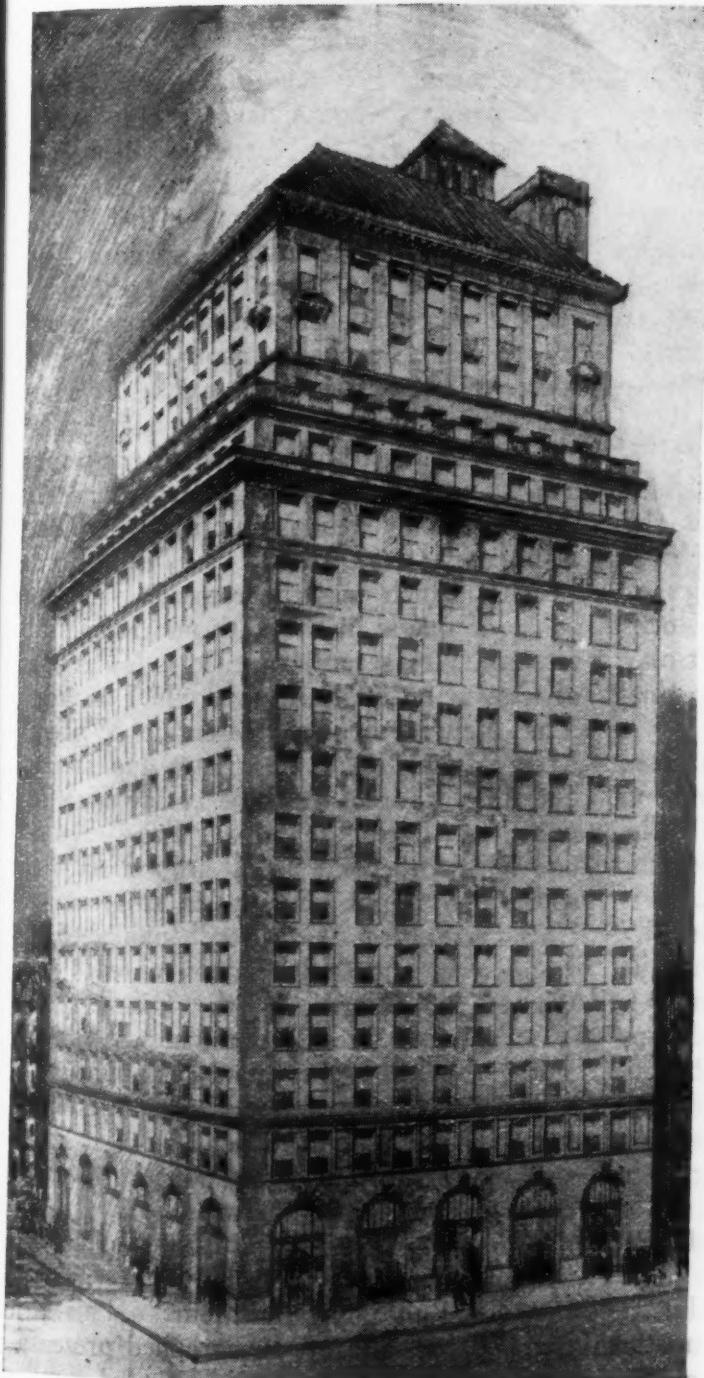
"Making Community Contacts for Religious Books," by Charles Francis Potter, National Association of Book Publishers.

"The Place of the Religious Book in Everyday Life," by H. V. Meyer, The John C. Winston Co.

"Religious Book Publicity," by Walter J. McIndoe, G. Howard Harmon, Inc., Advertising Agents.

In addition to these addresses and a general discussion of subjects vital to the sale of religious books the Religious Bookselling Group will formally organize as a permanent section of the American Booksellers' Association. The meetings will be open to all booksellers and publishers.

American Book Company's New Building



THE American Book Co. has recently moved its Corporation and New York Division offices into its new building at 88 Lexington Avenue, corner of East 26th

Street, New York City. This is the third home that the American Book Co. has had in New York since its organization in 1890. It was first located at 806-808 Broadway and remained there until 1895 when it moved to 100 Washington Square where it has been up to the present time. For over twenty-five years one of the manufacturing plants of the American Book Co. was also located at 100 Washington Square, but in 1922 this was moved to Bloomfield, N. J., where the company constructed an extensive printing and binding plant for the making of its books in addition to its plant in Cincinnati.

The new building of the American Book Co. at 88 Lexington Avenue is a modern, fireproof, seventeen story structure faced with Indiana limestone throughout its entire height and having a sloping copper roof. The architecture is Italian Renaissance. The American Book Co. occupies the upper seven stories for its Corporation and New York Division offices.

The entrance of the building has bronze doors set in ornamental frames and grilles. Both the entrance vestibule and the elevator lobby have walls of Formosa marble and an ornamental coffered ceiling. The portion of the lobby serving the American Book Co. exclusively is separated from the front by an attractive bronze screen surmounted by a clock.

A feature is the use of the Company's insignia on the elevator doors.

The architects were Necarsulmer and Lehlbach, and the builders Leddy and Moore, both of New York.

Exhibition of Books on Magic

The Grolier Club Display of Three Hundred Books Is Probably the First of Its Kind Ever Held

Milton Smith

THE exhibition of magic books at the Grolier Club is probably the first of its kind ever held. It consists of three hundred books, selected and arranged so as to bring out many interesting facts about magic, and also to show how magic has been connected with the art of book-making. There have been more than 2,000 books on magic printed since Reginald Scott's pioneer work on the subject was issued in 1584. More than half of these books were privately printed, to be circulated only among recognized magicians who would promise not to divulge the secrets of the craft to outsiders. Some of these volumes are interesting examples of book-making, because they contain locks and keys. Several volumes of this sort may be seen in this display—that is to say, they may be seen externally!

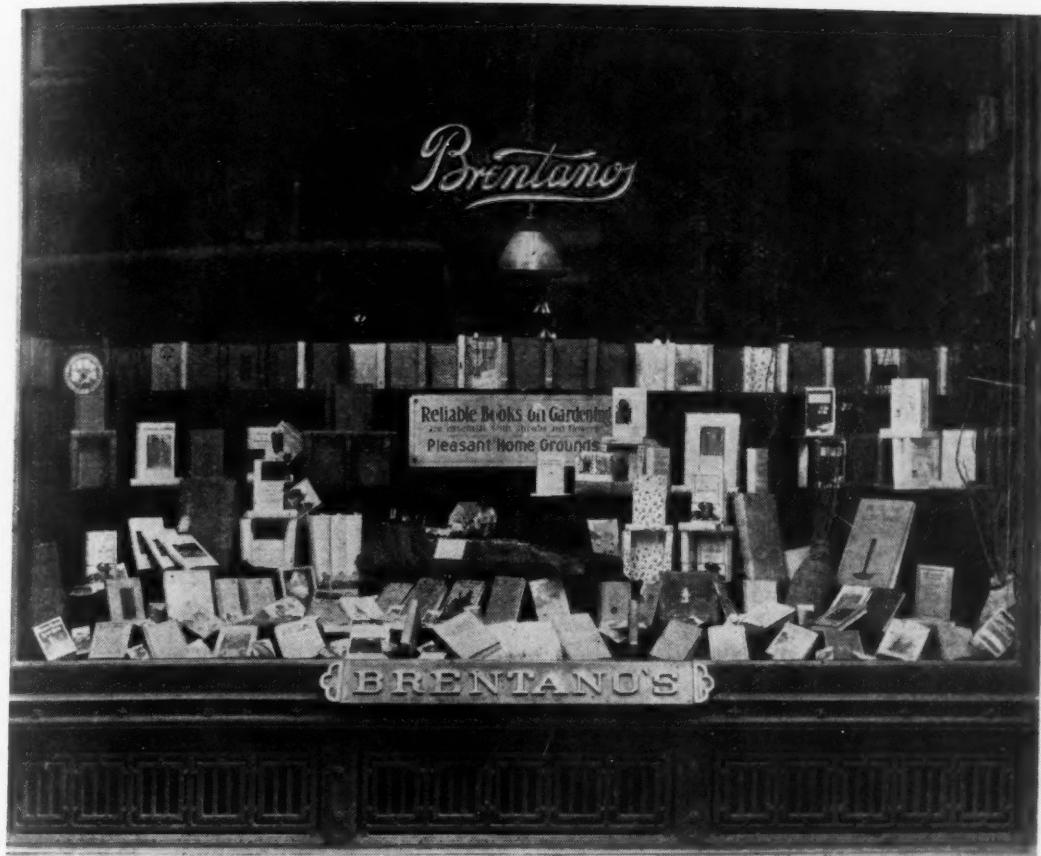
Scott's well-known book had a purpose: to persuade the public that there was no such thing as witchcraft. It is called "The Discoverie of Witchcraft," and the author claims that "all the conveyances of Legier-demain and juggling are deciphered." This was the work that brought forth the famous counterblast from King James I, called "Daemonologie." A beautiful copy of Scott's first edition is in the exhibition, and there are also copies of the second, third, and fourth editions that followed.

The entire display is well arranged to bring out the age and dignity of the art of magic, and to show sidelights on its diverting history. One section contains only "Throwout books," which are pamphlets to be distributed or sold for a small sum by magicians at their performances. Another section contains books written by well-known "performers"; and their pictures, autographs, and old theater programs add interest to their writings. Another section contains only magic books, which are illustrated with beautifully colored plates, published mostly in the 18th century.

An especially fascinating section is that which contains books devoted only partly to magic. Here the earnest student may study "The Old Hocus Pocus, being the Anatomy of Legerdemain, or the Whole Art of Juggling, to which is added The Complete Vermin-Killer." This particular volume was published at London, at an unknown date (probably about 1725), and boasts of being the "14th Edition." Thus the relationship between magic and vermin-killing seems to have been a prosperous one. The United States is represented in this section by a book published in Philadelphia in 1827. It, too, is called "Hocus Pocus," which was the common name for books of magic in the 18th and early 19th century. Its secondary title is "The Art of Conjuring made easy, to which is added The New Quizzical Valentine Writer." Most Hocus Pocus books are anonymous, but the author of this one boldly signs his name, as "Peter Quizumall, Esq." Should one wish to become an all-around adept in sports, he might consult, in this section, "The Compleat Gamster," published in London in 1726. It claims to teach "27 Games of Cards, with Fancies and Tricks," and in addition chess, billiards, riding, racing, archery and cock-fighting.

Of especial interest to students of magic must be the section which shows descriptions of identical tricks as done in different countries and different times.

Probably the most valuable item of the exhibition is Robert-Houdin's "Confidences d'un Prestidigitateur." This is a first edition, and an autographed presentation copy. The display is rounded out by sections, showing magazines of magic—of which there have been over eighty since 1792, bookplates of collectors of magic, coins and medals struck for magicians, music inspired by magic, catalogs of dealers, bibliographies, and, last but not least, mail order courses in magic!



An April Window Display

A MODEL in miniature of a charming country home soon to be built at Ardsley-on-the-Hudson forms the central feature of the attractive window which was arranged at Brentano's Fifth Avenue store for National Garden Week, April 11-16.

The house and grounds were built exactly to scale and grade as they will appear when completed. The grounds are completely landscaped and planted, with trees, shrubs, flowers, vegetable and rock gardens, walks and drives. Surrounding the model is a display of interesting books on architecture and building, landscaping and gardening—such books as Bailey's "Manual of Gardening," and "Cultivated Evergreens," Bottomley's "Design of Small Properties," Freeman's "Home Vegetable Garden," McFarland's "Rose in America" and Mrs. Cummins' "My Garden Comes of Age."

Actual construction of the house shown in the window is expected to start this spring in Judson Park, Ardsley. It is be-

ing built for H. A. Stevenson, manager of the horticultural department of the Macmillan Company. The larger number of the books included in this special display are Macmillan publications.

April and May offer the bookseller unusual opportunities for good window displays. Garden Week is followed by Better Homes Week, April 24-30, when homelovers as well as booklovers are attracted to windows that feature books on home decoration, books for the home library, books on architecture and gardening. National Music Week is celebrated May 1-7. The National Music Week Committee issues a selected list of histories of music, biographies of great composers, etc. This list was reprinted in the *Publishers' Weekly* last week. Copies of the list may be obtained without charge from the Committee, 45 West 45th Street. International Boys' Week is also celebrated by the Rotary Clubs in the same week, which always gives a chance to feature boys' books.

In the Book Market

DONALD OGDEN STEWART is at work upon a new book using the same plot based upon the newspaper story which inspired Theodore Dreiser to write "An American Tragedy." It is to be called "An American Comedy." Stewart proposes to see what can be done if the hero has a sense of humor even in the death cell. "In my new novel, 'An American Comedy,'" he says, "I propose to show what a crisis in our nation can be induced when the Constitution, instead of following the flag, actually precedes it and beats us all to it. I have discussed this situation with the best minds in Hollywood, and we are unanimously opposed to it." In the meantime, every outward bound vessel carries at least one copy of "Mr. and Mrs. Haddock in Paris, France," that voyagers may know just what *not* to do in the French capital. & & & Perhaps "An American Comedy" will have more success in reaching the motion picture screen than "An American Tragedy" had. The Famous Players-Lasky Corporation was ready to produce the Dreiser novel, when Will Hays received so many protests from women's societies that they had to stop all arrangements. The dramatic version by Patrick Kearney has just completed a successful run in New York. & & & Plays that are growing out of books at the present moment are "Dry Martini," which the author, John Thomas, is dramatizing, according to word just received by his publishers, Doran; "Where the Blue Begins," Christopher Morley's dramatization of his novel published by Doubleday, Page; "Congai," the Harry Hervey novel which Cosmopolitan published and which has been dramatized by Mr. Hervey and Carleton Hildreth, and a motion picture version of "The Claw" by Cynthia Stockley, Putnam. & & & The Christopher Morley dramatization will be given a first reading by the cast of the Playreaders on April 26th at Town Hall in New York. Starting with this, which has never before been produced, they will inaugurate a series of advance presentations of new plays of recognized standing, in order that both the managers and the public may have

an opportunity to judge the play before its production in the commercial theater. The plays will be given by a trained cast of dramatic readers. & & & After much speculation as to who the author of "Sweet and Low," the 2 x 4 book published last fall by Simon & Schuster, might be, the publishers, pressed by Ring Lardner, have announced that "Liggett Reynolds" is none other than Robert A. Simon (not a member of the firm), novelist, detective story writer, staff critic of the *New York Evening Post Literary Review*, music editor of *The New Yorker*, harmonica virtuoso, raconteur-at-large, etc., etc. Ring Lardner, his curiosity satisfied, is resting quietly.

Davis Snedden, professor of education at Teachers College, Columbia University, has written a book entitled "What's Wrong With American Education" which Lippincott has published. It is a constructive criticism in which the author points out that the road to better education must be selective. Dr. Snedden has had long, practical experience in the educational field. & & & Donald B. MacMillan, the Arctic explorer, has just received the Elisha Kane Gold Medal for Daring Exploration and Scientific Research. Presentation was made in New York by Bainbridge Colby at a special meeting of the Kane Lodge. The only previous recipient of the medal was Admiral Peary. Mr. MacMillan's next book is eagerly awaited. It will be published in the fall by Houghton Mifflin under the title "Etah and Beyond." & & &

The question that has been worrying us is not in any question book. It is, who is the author of "The Victory Murders," published by John Day, who signs himself Foster Johns. Alexander Woollcott was suggested by several individuals but here has come one who claims to know and we have faith in his pronouncements. Let it be told then in a still, small voice, Foster Johns is Gilbert Seldes, author of "The Seven Lively Arts" and conductor of "The Theatre" department in *The Dial*. And we thought he had been merely lazy of late. This business of pseudonyms is tricky. Even your best friend won't tell you.

Test Case Made of Dreiser's Book

FOLLOWING the banning in Boston last week of Theodore Dreiser's "An American Tragedy," which was published in December, 1925, Arthur Garfield Hayes, counsel for Boni & Liveright, the publishers, arranged, after some difficulty, for an arrest to be made for sale of the book. Mr. Hayes said it was the publishers' understanding that Boston booksellers, not knowing whether the book was banned or not were afraid to sell it and, therefore, the effect on the publisher was equivalent to police ban. To discover just where they stand, Donald S. Friede, vice-president of Boni & Liveright, sold the two volume set to Lieutenant Daniel J. Hines in the office of Superintendent of Police Michael H. Crowley, on Friday, April 15. After completing this transaction Mr. Friede offered to sell a copy of "The Scarlet Letter" and Shakespeare's works, but he very wisely refused to purchase.

A warrant was issued on Monday before the magistrate and the case was set for Friday the 22nd. The magistrate may acquit, which seems likely, or take under advisement or find guilty. If the latter decision is made, Boni & Liveright will ask for a jury trial.

Boston Publishers Protest

IT is of interest, considering the extent of the bans of the Boston police, to find so sane a protest as was sent to the Boston papers signed by three officials of the Atlantic Monthly Co. and three officials of Little, Brown & Co. It read as follows:

"As citizens concerned with public decency and the maintenance of public sanity, as publishers associated during the active lifetime of all of us with books and magazines of honorable reputation, we wish publicly and seriously to protest against the high-handed, erratic, and ill-advised interference of certain public officials with the sale and distribution of books, many of them of recognized standing and freely sold elsewhere throughout the United States. We believe that this ill-judged and intemperate procedure does not commend itself to the great body of our citizens, that it does not represent the best sentiment of this community, and that it is not beneficial but definitely injurious to organizations both religious and secular with which the current persecution becomes inevitably associated in

the public mind. It is difficult for men of self-respect to keep silence in the face of this violation of the historic tradition of Boston and New England."

(Signed) ELLERY SEDGWICK, MACGREGOR JENKINS, M. A. DEWOLFE HOWE, ALFRED R. MCINTYRE, HERBERT F. JENKINS, JAMES R. McDONALD.

Record of American Book Production, March, 1927*

| CLASSIFICATION | By Origin | | | | | | Total | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------|--|
| | New Publications | | | English And other Foreign Authors | | | | |
| | New Books | New Editions | Pamphlets | American Authors | American Manufacture | Imported | | |
| Philosophy | 20 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 6 | 6 | 30 | |
| Religion | 53 | 2 | 15 | 54 | 3 | 13 | 70 | |
| Sociology | 34 | 2 | 11 | 41 | — | 6 | 47 | |
| Law | 9 | 4 | — | 13 | — | — | 13 | |
| Education | 14 | — | 7 | 19 | — | 2 | 21 | |
| Philology | 12 | 4 | 3 | 14 | — | 5 | 19 | |
| Science | 27 | 5 | 2 | 23 | 2 | 9 | 34 | |
| Technical Books | 31 | 9 | 3 | 38 | — | 5 | 43 | |
| Medicine | 25 | 4 | 1 | 23 | 1 | 6 | 30 | |
| Agriculture | 12 | — | 5 | 14 | — | 3 | 17 | |
| Domestic Economy .. | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | — | 3 | 8 | |
| Business | 28 | — | 2 | 28 | — | 2 | 30 | |
| Fine Arts | 13 | — | 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 16 | |
| Music | 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 8 | |
| Games | 5 | — | 4 | 8 | — | 1 | 9 | |
| General Literature .. | 25 | — | 2 | 16 | 1 | 10 | 27 | |
| Poetry, Drama | 62 | 5 | 23 | 71 | 9 | 10 | 90 | |
| Fiction | 115 | 48 | 1 | 129 | 26 | 9 | 164 | |
| Juvenile | 35 | 6 | 1 | 29 | 3 | 10 | 42 | |
| History | 38 | 4 | 1 | 27 | 6 | 10 | 43 | |
| Geography | 22 | 7 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 12 | 30 | |
| Biography | 41 | 1 | 2 | 27 | 5 | 12 | 44 | |
| Miscellaneous | 2 | — | 3 | 5 | — | — | 5 | |
| | 618 | 85 | 70 | 600 | 60 | 113 | 773 | |

*In March, 1926, 588 new books, 147 new editions, 114 pamphlets, a total of 849, were recorded.

Jazzing the Decalog

"My dear young lady," said the clergyman, in grieved tones as he listened to an extremely modern young woman tear off some of the very latest jazz on the piano, "have you ever heard of the Ten Commandments?"

"Whistle a few bars," said the young lady, "and I think I can follow you."—*Christian Evangelist.*

Communications
OLD BOOKS UNDER NEW TITLES
THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Editor, *Publishers Weekly*:

May I present for the booktrade's consideration the question of the policy involved in the re-publication of two excellent books originally published by Ginn & Company in textbook form, namely: Breasted's "Ancient Times," and Robinson's "Mediaeval and Modern Times," each \$2? In the Harper & Brothers' edition they have been renamed "The Conquest of Civilization" and "The Ordeal of Civilization," at the collected price of \$10.

Notice that these editions were revised was carried in each book on a page following the title, but it does not seem to me that this meets the situation, as the notice can be read only after the books have been delivered, and the advertisements to the public give no clue that these are anything but new publications. Neither is there any indication of how much revision there has been. Would it not be fairer to tell the public the full facts and give the book buyer, whether librarian or private individual, the opportunity of buying with these facts before him?

The situation in regard to these books is still further confused by the fact that the titles were featured under the general heading of "The Human Adventure," but this title appeared only on the box in which the two were brought together and nowhere in the books themselves. Here is a problem for librarians and bibliographers. In the long run, I believe that such methods do not make for confidence and good will. Yours truly,

G. F. BOWERMAN, *Librarian.*

CARELESS MAIL ORDERS

Fleming H. Revell Co.
 April 12, 1927.

Editor, *Publishers' Weekly*:

Can you give publicity to an important matter in connection with the placing of direct-to-customer mail orders.

We have been receiving an unusual num-

ber of orders from bookstores for titles published by some other house. Only this morning we received in the first mail no less than ten such orders from ten different stores. This naturally meant that some clerk had to locate the publisher and refer each order to the proper house. In other words we are doing a job that the bookstores should have done before mailing the order.

We are quite willing to be of assistance in giving this service to our customers who have no facilities for locating publishers of certain volumes. However, in almost every case these orders are from concerns who have the facilities but do not use them.

You can readily see that such orders are always delayed in their completion and at the same time the customer is waiting for his book. It looks as tho these concerns were sacrificing "service." Do you think we are unfair in our criticism?

Very truly yours,

D. W. BRIGGS,
 Trade Department.

MORE ABOUT MAIL ORDERS

American Booksellers' Association,
 April 16, 1927.

Editor, *Publishers' Weekly*:

Today I received copy of a letter written on April 12th by D. W. Briggs of Fleming H. Revell Co. in which he seriously objects to the careless manner the booksellers have in sending orders without being sure of the publisher. That in fact it is costing the publisher at the present time considerable money.

I am convinced that his grounds are well taken and I hope you will give this matter your serious consideration in the *Publishers' Weekly* columns. I think I shall make a recommendation to the Association at this convention.

The booksellers as a rule have plenty to complain about but as long as they are criticising the publisher for various sins of omission and commission it seems to me the only thing we can do is see that our own skirts are clear.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN G. KIDD,
 President.

LIBRARIAN COMMENDS PUTNAM POLICY

California State Library,
Editor, *Publishers' Weekly*:

For several years I have had a lively interest in the work of William Beebe. When his new book "Pheasant Jungles" arrived I immediately dipped into it. As has happened in his case before I was not content with the library copy but had to go off and get one for myself.

The feature I wanted to comment upon, however, was not Mr. Beebe's selling powers as a literary artist but a minor feature adopted by G. P. Putnam Sons in issuing this book. In the front of the book they have listed "Books by William Beebe," and set down his writings in their chronological order giving publisher and date of publication. The interesting and pleasing thing to me from a librarian's point of view is that they have listed Mr. Beebe's books which were published by other firms. It is good to see an American publisher who is interested enough in reading to adopt a plan which in a narrow sense might be considered prejudicial to his own business interests. As a matter of fact I believe that Putnam's will actually profit from their liberal policy. Anything that promotes the reading of an author will help all of his publishers, tho as professionals interested in a movement that is an incidental matter which need not greatly concern us. I hope that many publishers will follow the Putnam plan.

MILTON J. FERGUSON,
Staff Librarian.

Personal Notes

STANLEY UNWIN, head of the firm of George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., publishers of London, is arriving in New York on May 10th for a short business trip. Mr. Unwin is the nephew of T. Fisher Unwin, head of the older publishing firm whose business was taken over by Benn last year. After a couple of years with his uncle, Mr. Unwin decided to go into business himself, and, in preparation, spent considerable time in Germany studying methods there, and then traveling around the world studying book markets and book distribution methods. Returning to London, he decided that the best way to build a publishing business

was to buy out an established business, and he succeeded in making arrangements to take over the business of George Allen & Company, long known as the publishers of Ruskin, and with which was joined the old business of Swann & Sonnenschein. With this nucleus and with an energy that has been a characteristic of his publishing methods, he has built up one of the outstanding businesses in London, which is located at 40 Museum Street, within a few steps of the British Museum.

Mr. Unwin has always been particularly interested in the general theory of publishing, and is the author of "The Truth About Publishing," issued by Houghton Mifflin last January, a book which has caused wide discussion of publishing methods on both sides of the ocean. It has been translated into German and Spanish. Last summer he was chairman of a joint committee of publishers, wholesalers and retailers who went to Holland and Germany to study trade methods, and this committee's report brought back to England many significant recommendations.

Mr. Unwin has been invited to be a guest at the banquet of the American Booksellers' Association, and it is hoped that he will be able to speak at one of the sessions.

Obituary Notes

FRANK H. WHITCOMB

FRANK H. WHITCOMB, for years the senior partner in the publishing firm of Whitcomb & Barrows, died in Boston on April 10th. He retired from business in 1924 on account of failing health, the firm of M. Barrows & Co. succeeding to the business.

Business Notes

NEW YORK CITY.—The Magic Carpet Book Room which Mrs. Waldo Richards ran in New York until a short time before her death, will be re-opened in the fall by Mrs. Harold Richards.

TRENTON, N. J.—The Idle Hour Bookshop has been opened at 19 So. Warren St., by Samuel Tumin. It will specialize in Americana with a pronounced interest in New Jersey items.

The Weekly Record of New Publications

THIS list aims to be a complete and accurate record of American book publications. Pamphlets will be included only if of special value. Publishers should send copies of all books promptly for annotation and entry, and the receipt of advance copies insures record simultaneous with publication. The annotations are descriptive, not critical; intended to place not to judge the books. Pamphlet material and books of lesser trade interest are listed in smaller type.

The entry is transcribed from title page when the book is sent for record. Prices are added except when not supplied by publisher or obtainable only on specific request, in which case word "apply" is used. When not specified the binding is "cloth."

Imprint date or best available date, preferably copyright date in bracket, is always stated, except when imprint date and copyright date agree and are of the current year, in which case only "c" is used. No ascertainable date is designated thus: [n.d.]

Sizes are indicated as follows: F (folio: over 30 centimeters high); Q (4to: under 30 cm.); O (8vo: 25 cm.); D (12mo: 20 cm.); S (16mo: 17½ cm.); T (24mo: 15 cm.); sq., obl., nar., designate square, oblong, narrow.

A. H. M., and others

What's your average? introd. by Kathleen and Charles G. Norris. 192p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Dutton \$1.50
A question book.

Amundsen, Roald Engelbregt Gravning, and Ellsworth, Lincoln

First crossing of the Polar Sea; with additional chapters by other members of the expedition. 324p. il. map O c. N. Y., Doran \$5
The story of the flight of the "Norge" to the North Pole.

Atherton, Mrs. Gertrude Franklin Horn

The immortal marriage. 466p. D c. N. Y., Liveright \$2.50

A story of the love of Pericles and Aspasia, his wife, a woman who won independence and power at a time when the women of the ancient world were held in subjection.

Austen, Jane

Novels; 5 v.; text based on collation of the early editions of R. W. Chapman; 2nd ed. various p. il. D '26 N. Y., Oxford buck. \$10 set

Baker, Elizabeth W., ed.

Great speeches. 266p. il. S (Academy classics) [c. '27] Bost., Allyn & Bacon 80c.

Balmer, Helen E. Cornell

An old man's story. 115p. D (Contemporary poets, 47) [c. '27] Phil., Dorrance bds. \$1.75 bxd.

Baumann, Arthur A.

The last Victorians. 315p. il. O '27 Phil., Lippincott bds. \$5

Studies of prominent political personalities and men of letters in England in the last half of the Victorian era.

Beadnell, H. J. Llewellyn

The wilderness of Sinai; a record of two years' recent exploration. 196p. il. maps O '27 [N. Y., Longmans] \$4

Beals, Carleton

Brimstone and Chili. 333p. il. O c. N. Y., Knopf \$5

A book of personal experiences in the Southwest and in Mexico.

Beck, James Montgomery

The constitution of the United States, 1787-

1927; ed. for school use by Edwin L. Miller and C. C. Barnes. 207p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Doran \$1.25

Behrman, S. N.

The second man; a comedy in three acts. 195p. D (Theatre Guild lib.) c. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday bds. \$1

A play that opened in New York last week, with Lynn Fontaine and Alfred Lunt in the cast.

Bennett, Arnold, i.e. Enoch Arnold

The woman who stole everything, and other stories. 350p. D [c. '24-'27] N. Y., Doran \$2.50

Thirteen short stories, described as "lively episodes of life."

Benson, Edward Frederic

Pharisees and publicans. 318p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Doran \$2

The story of a hypocritical wife and the people about her, all seeking their way out of an impossible situation.

Brewster, Edwin Tenney

Creation; a history of non-evolutionary theories. 295p. il. O [c. '27] Ind., Bobbs-Merrill \$3.50

Brown, O. F.

Elements of radio-communication. 223p. diagrs. O (Oxford technical pub'n) '27 N. Y., Oxford \$3.50

Brown, William Adams

The life of prayer in a world of science. 204p. (6p. bibl.) D c. N. Y., Scribner \$2.25

Byron, George Gordon Noel Byron, 6th baron

Don Juan; ed. with introd. by Frank H. Ristine. 510p. D (Modern readers' ser.) c. N. Y., Macmillan 80c.

Callinicos, Rev. Constantine N.

The Greek orthodox catechism; a manual of instruction on faith, morals and worship. 126p. il. D '26 [Milwaukee, Morehouse Pub. Co.] \$1.25

Caplin, Jessie F.

Knitting, its products and processes; a concise survey of knit goods manufactured from the raw material to the finished merchandise. 98p. il. diagrs. D c. N. Y., Dry Goods Economist \$2

Carlyle, Thomas

Past and present; introd. by Julia Patton. 362p. D (Modern readers' ser.) c. N. Y., Macmillan 80c.

Carmon, Walt, ed.

Red cartoons of 1927. 64p. il. O '27 N. Y., Daily Worker Pub. Co. bds. \$1
Cartoons taken from the *Daily Worker* and *Workers' Monthly*.

Charnley, Mitchell V., ed.

Secrets of baseball told by big league players. 167p. D c. N. Y., Appleton \$1.50

Nine professional baseball stars give "tips" to young players on various points of the game. Each man explains how to play the particular position in which he is star.

Chesterton, Gilbert Keith

The return of Don Quixote. 307p. D '27 c. '26, '27 N. Y., Dodd, Mead \$2

A modern Don Quixote in the person of Michael Herne, scholar and librarian of note, rides forth in a dilapidated hansom cab to reform the world.

Ching-Wai, Wong

China and the nations; tr. and ed. by I-Sen Teng and John Nind Smith. 161p. (bibl.) map O '27 N. Y., Stokes \$2.50

Wong Ching-Wai is chairman of the governing committee of the People's Government of China and his book is the draft of the report on international problems prepared for the International Problems Committee of the People's Conference of Delegates at Peking in April, 1925.

Clark, Charles Upson

Bessarabia: Russia and Roumania on the Black Sea. 344p. (17p. bibl.) il. D c. N. Y., Dodd, Mead \$3.50

By the author of "Greater Roumania."

Clarke, Isabel Constance

A case of conscience. 370p. D c. N. Y., Benziger Bros. \$2.50

The romance of two young people, complicated by the second marriage of the girl's mother.

Clarke, James Everitt, D.D.

What is a Christian? [rev. ed.] 123p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Revell \$1

Collins, V. H., ed.

Lord Byron in his letters. 317p. front. (por.) O '27 N. Y., Scribner \$3.50

Selections from Byron's correspondence and journals, which provide a running commentary on his life, personal traits and poetry.

Cooper, James Fenimore

The last of the Mohicans; ed. by Ernest C. Noyes. 426p. (bibl.) il. map S (Academy classics) [c. '27] Bost., Allyn & Bacon \$1

Coursey, Philip Ray

Electrical condensers; their construction, design and industrial uses. 661p. (101p. bibl.) il., diagrs. O '27 N. Y., Pitman \$10

Burroughs, Wilbur Greeley

The geography of the Kentucky Knobs; a study of the influence of geology and physiography upon the industry, commerce and life of the people. 294p. (10p. bibl.) il., maps, diagrs. O (Ky. Geological Survey, ser. 6, v. 19) '26 c. Frankfort, Ky., Ky. Geological Survey apply

Craik, Mrs. Dinah Maria Mulock [Miss Mulock, pseud.]

The little lame prince, and other stories; il. by Gertrude A. Kay. 261p. il. (col.) D (Newbery classics) [c. '27] Phil., McKay \$1

Crébillon, Claude Prosper Jolyot de

The sofa; a moral tale; tr. by Bonamy Dobrée. 305p. O (B'way lib. of 18th century French lit.) [c. '27] N. Y., Brentano's \$4.50

Crownfield, Gertrude

Alison Blair. 301p. il. D [c. '27] N. Y., Dutten \$2

The story of a girl who came from Kent, England, to the Mohawk Valley country during the French and Indian War.

Deissman, Gustav Adolf

Paul; a study in social and religious history; tr. by William E. Wilson; 2nd ed. 338p. (bibl. footnotes) il. diagrs. O [n. d.] N. Y., Doran \$5

Dell, Anthony

Llama land. 248p. il. O [c. '27] N. Y., Doran \$10
Travels in Peru.

Deshel, Morris C.

Civics. 144p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Globe B'k 67 c.

D'Hauterive, Ernest, ed.

The Second Empire and its downfall; tr. by Herbert Wilson. 292p. il. O [n. d.] N. Y., Doran \$6

The correspondence of the Emperor Napoleon III and his cousin, Prince Napoleon, now published for the first time.

Dinsmore, Ernest L.

Chemical calculations. 192p. il. D [c. '27] N. Y., Globe B'k \$1.20

Dobrée, Valentine

Your cuckoo sings by kind. 284p. D '27 N. Y., Knopf bds. \$2.50

A novel written with penetration and humor that studies the psychology of a child from twelve to fourteen.

Dodd, Lee Wilson

The golden complex. 171p. D c. N. Y., John Day bds. \$1.75

A defense of the inferiority complex.

Dreiser, Theodore

The financier; rev. ed. 503p. D c. N. Y., Liveright \$3

Forced to publish this novel in 1912, before he had perfected it, the author has completely rewritten it since then.

Dudley, Carolyn

God's children living together; programs for the primary department, prepared for use in the vacation church school. 185p. il. diagrs. O c. Phil., B'd of Christian Educ. of Presbyterian Church \$1.75

Cole, Lawrence Wooster

Factors of human psychology. 362p. il. '26 Boulder, Col., Univ. of Col. Extension Div. \$2.40

Coleman, Bessie Blackstone

My first book [reader]. 30p. il. (col.) D c. '27 N. Y., Silver, Burdett pap. apply

- Edmunds, Abe Craddock**
Mass and other poems. 38p. S [c. '27]
[Lynchburg, Va., Author, 111 Madison St.]
bds. \$1.50
- Edwards, Rhoda Walker**
The rhythm of life; poems. 67p. D c. N. Y.,
Putnam \$1.75
- English catalogue of books for 1926, The.**
349p. O '27 [N. Y., R. R. Bowker Co.] \$4
- Erckmann, Emile, and Chatrian, Alexandre**
Madame Thérèse; ed. with introd. and notes
by George W. Rollins. 295p. S [c. '27] Bost.,
Ginn 80 c.
- Eric Gill.** various p. il. O (Contemporary
British artists) '27 N. Y., Scribner bds. \$2
- Erskine, John**
Prohibition and Christianity, and other
paradoxes of the American spirit. 319p. D
[c. '27] Ind., Bobbs-Merrill \$2.50
Essays on our domestic politics and morals, our
international relations, our traveling, our education, and
other aspects of present-day America and Americans.
Many of the chapters have appeared before in news-
papers and magazines.
- Erskine, Laurie York**
Renfrew rides again. 292p. front. D c. N. Y.,
Appleton \$1.75
As a member of the Royal Northwest Police, Ren-
frew fights a hard-pressed, long-drawn battle with a
band of ruffians who give him a difficult chase.
- Fairbank, Janet Ayer [Mrs. Kellogg Fair-
bank]**
Idle hands. 316p. D [c. '26, '27] Ind., Bobbs-
Merrill \$2
A group of short stories by the author of "The
Smiths."
- Fishbein, Morris, M.D.**
The new medical follies. 235p. D c. N. Y.,
Liveright \$2
More essays by the author of "The Medical Follies,"
on some of the fads that lie in the borderland of
medical practice.
- Fisher, Agnes Cecil, comp.**
Spiritual thoughts from eminent writers.
165p. S '26 Milwaukee, Morehouse Pub. Co.
bds. \$1.40
A devotional anthology in prose.
- Fleming, Berry**
The conqueror's stone. 299p. D c. N. Y.,
John Day \$2
A story of adventure, pirate ships and buried treasure
in the year 1766 in the Carolinas.
- Foster, Elizabeth Glasier**
Embroidery and design in the new stitchery.
187p. il. (pt. col.) diagrs. D (New needlecraft
ser., no. 4) '26 N. Y., Pitman \$1.50
- Gardner, Percy**
Modernism in the English church. 191p. D
(Faiths ser.) [n. d.] N. Y., Doran \$2
- Garvin, John William, ed.**
Canadian poets [new ed.] 547p. il. O [c.
'26] [N. Y., Dodd, Mead] \$5
- Goddard, Henry Herbert**
Two souls in one body? 255p. il. D c. N. Y.,
Dodd, Mead \$2.50
A study of a remarkable case of dual personality
written chiefly for the light which it throws upon the
mental hygiene of childhood.
- Gooch, George Peabody**
Recent revelations of European diplomacy.
224p. O '27 N. Y., Longmans \$3
An analytical survey of the most important publica-
tions which have appeared since the beginning of the
world war concerning the diplomatic history of Europe
from the accession of William II to the Treaty of
Versailles.
- Greenwood, W. John**
Greenwood's business letter phrases and
paragraphs; classified for immediate use, to-
gether with selected letters and a dictionary
of trading operations, commercial terms, etc.
834p. O [c. '27] Richmond, Hill, L. I., Busi-
ness Bk. Pub. Co. \$3.50
- Grierson, Elizabeth Wilson**
Knights of S. Francis. 139p. il. (col. front.)
D ['26] Milwaukee, Morehouse Pub. Co. \$1.80
- Griffin, Aceituna**
Pearl and plain. 312p. D c. N. Y., Long-
mans \$2
An English society romance.
- Haldeman, Isaac Massey**
The coming of Christ; 9th ed. 325p. D [c.
'06] N. Y., Revell \$1.75
- Hall, Marshall R.**
Storm of the old frontier. 302p. S [c. '26,
'27] Phil., H. Altemus * 50 c.
A tale of the '49ers.
- Hamsun, Knut**
Mysteries; tr. by Arthur G. Chater. 338p.
D c. N. Y., Knopf \$2.50
A novel concerning the utter solitariness of the
human creature, first published in Copenhagen in 1892.
- Harrigan, M. H.**
Traveling light. 225p. (bibls.) maps S [c.
'27] N. Y., Brentano's \$2
"How to see Great Britain, France, Belgium and
Holland economically independently and enjoyably."
- Hartland, Edwin Sidney**
The science of fairy tales; an inquiry into
fairy mythology; introd. by A. A. Milne. 384p.
D [n. d.] N. Y., Stokes \$2.25
- Haynes, Annie**
The Crow's Inn tragedy. 290p. D c. N. Y.,
Dodd, Mead \$2
The sudden and suspicious death of the senior mem-
ber of the firm of Bechcombe and Turner in Crow's
Inn Square sets Scotland Yard detectives to work on
the case.
- Herzberg, Max John, ed.**
Stories of adventure. 429p. (5p. bibl.) il.
map S (Academy classics) [c. '27] Bost., Allyn
& Bacon \$1
-
- Jillson, Willard Rouse**
New oil pools of Kentucky. 402p. il., maps, diagrs.
O (Ky. Geological Survey, ser. 6, v. 12) '26, c. '27
Frankfort, Ky., Ky. Geological Survey apply
- Kent, James Tyler**
New remedies; clinical cases, lesser writings,
aphorisms, and recipes. 608p. O '26 c. Chic., Ehrhart
& Karl, 143 N. Wabash Ave. \$7.50

- Hinkson, Pamela**
St. Mary's. 286p. il. D '27 N. Y., Longmans \$2
A story of English boarding-school life for girls.
- Houston, Robert Alexander**
A treatise on light; 5th ed. 500p. il. (pt. col.) diagrs. O '27 N. Y., Longmans \$4.20
- Hull, Helen R.**
Islanders. 312p. D c. N. Y., Macmillan \$2.50
As she surveys herself and other women, Ellen Dacey realizes that most women of today have become isolated on their domestic islands and lead empty and unsatisfying lives.
- Inquisitors, The**
The quiz book; a compilation of questions and answers; preface by Henry Seidel Canby. 231p. O [c. '27] N. Y., Brentano's \$1.50
- Jungell, Joanna**
A potpourri at dusk. 65p. D (Contemporary poets, 49) c. Phil., Dorrance bds. \$1.75, bxd.
- King, Mrs. Francis**
The beginner's garden. 137p. il. diagrs. O '27 c. '25-'27 N. Y., Scribner \$2
A helpful guide to any one planning a garden for the first time.
- Klabund, pseud. [Alfred Henschke]**
Brackie the fool. 261p. il. D c. N. Y., Putnam \$2
A fantastic tale by the author of "Peter the Czar," about an inspired fool who exposes the shallowness and vanity of worldly wisdom.
- Lacey, Thomas Alexander, D.D.**
The Anglo-Catholic faith. 204p. (bibl. footnotes) D (Faiths ser.) [n. d.] N. Y., Doran \$2
- Lang, Andrew**
My own fairy book; il. by Gertrude A. Kay. 402p. il. (col.) D (Newbery classics) [c. '27] Phil., McKay \$1
- Lang, Andrew, ed.**
The blue fairy book; il. by Frank Godwin. 341p. il. (col.) D (Newbery classics) [c. '21] Phil., McKay \$1
The red fairy book; il. by Gustaf Tenggren. 319p. il. (col.) D (Newbery classics) [c. '24] Phil., McKay \$1
- Kinley, David**
Ideals in American life; an address. 10p. O '27 Urbana, Ill., Univ. of Ill. pap. gratis
- Laughlin, Curtis Stuart**
Marionettes; a book of verse 23p. S c. Portland, Me., Author pap. apply
- Lectures delivered at Columbia University in the special course on Contemporary developments in chemistry, given in the Summer Session of 1926 on the occasion of the opening of the Chandler Chemical Laboratories; 25 v. various p. (bibls.), diagrs. O c. N. Y., Columbia Univ. Press \$11; pap., \$10 set, 50 c. ea.
- Lovell, John Harvey**
Honey plants of North America. 411p. il. (col. front.) O (A. I. Root bee lib.) '26 Medina, O., A. I. Root Co. fab. \$2.50
- McConnell, Franz Marshall**
McConnell's manual for Baptist churches. 188p. S [c. '26] Phil., Judson Press \$1
- McElroy, Margaret J.**
A child's first book in reading. 32p. il. (col.) D c. '27 N. Y., Amer. Bk. pap. apply
- Longridge, George**
Spiritualism and Christianity; new and rev. ed. 99p. S ['18-'26] Milwaukee, Morehouse Pub. Co. \$1
- Longyear, Burton O.**
Trees and shrubs of the Rocky Mountain region; with keys and descriptions for their identification. 261p. il. (pt. col.) S c. N. Y., Putnam \$3.50
- Lucas, Edward Verrall**
Events and embroideries. 223p. D [c. '27] N. Y., Doran bds. \$2
A variety of essays.
- Lundborg, H., M.D., and Linders, F. J.**
The facial characters of the Swedish nation. 288p. il. F '26 N. Y., G. E. Stechert pap. \$30
- McBride, Mary Margaret, and Williams, Alexander**
Charm. 218p. il. D [c. '27] N. Y., Rae D. Henkle Co., Inc., 45 Fourth Ave. bds. \$2.50
"A book about it and those who have it, for those who want it."
- MacDonald, Robert G.**
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Current Rare Book Notes

CATALOG No. 116 of Walter M. Hill, of Chicago, is devoted to "James McNeill Whistler: Books, Etchings, Autographs, Biographica," etc. The autographic material is of special interest, including many desirable and characteristic letters.

WILLIAM EVARTS BENJAMIN, once a well known dealer in rare books in this city and widely known as a collector of autograph letters and manuscripts, has made a gift of \$75,000 to the Library of Congress, to endow a chair in American history.

THE April catalog of Elkin Matthews, Ltd., of London, of "Eighteenth Century Books and Modern First Editions," includes a remarkable collection of first and rare editions of Byron and Byronia, 194 lots in all. Among these items are many rare volumes in the choicest possible condition.

THE "Spring Catalog" of The Centaur Book Shop, of Philadelphia, will be of special interest to collectors of modern first editions. The 408 lots are mostly by living authors, and among those best represented are Sherwood Anderson, James Branch Cabell, Stephen Crane, Walter de la Mare, Norman Douglas, Ronald Firbank, James Elroy Flecker, Joseph Hergesheimer, W. H. Hudson, Aldous Huxley, D. H. Lawrence, H. L. Mencken, and James Stephens. This issue has a check list of the books written by Alfred Edgar Coppard.

THE libraries of Herbert H. Seidler, of Brooklyn, N. Y., Calvin Thomas of this city, and other private collections, were sold in a single session at the Anderson Galleries April 11, 312 lots bringing \$4,685. A copy of Hardy's "Woodlanders," 3 vols., London, 1887, brought \$105; Stokes's "Iconography of Manhattan Island: 1498-1909," 5 vols., imperial 8vo, half vellum, New York, 1915-26, \$450; and Wordsworth's "Poems," 2 vols., 16mo, contemporary mottled calf, London, 1807, first edition, \$75.

CATALOG No. 2, "First Editions of American Authors," just issued by the Pegasus Bookshop, Inc., 31 East Sixtieth Street, will be of interest to collectors of American authors of the last century. It includes 59 pages and 807 items, and among the authors with most notable representation are Aldrich, Cable, Clemens, Field, Harte, Hawthorne, O. Henry, Holmes, Howells, Longfellow, Lowell, Paulding, Taylor, and Whittier. This is one of many indications that American first editions, of the period represented by these authors, are increasing in demand and prices consequently advancing.

THE sale at the American Art Galleries on April 25 and 26 will be one of the most important of the season. It includes the fine library of Mrs. J. B. Finley, of Pittsburgh, important selections from the libraries of Edwin J. Evans, of London, and Stanley Spiegelberg of this city, together with Richard Wagner's manuscript of "The Rheingold" and an important collection of his letters, the property of Kurt Lehman of this city. This sale as a whole includes many choice editions of standard authors in full leather bindings, illuminated manuscripts, rare first editions, association books, autograph letters and manuscripts. The letters and manuscripts of composers are a feature of great distinction.

THE Centaur Book Shop of Philadelphia has been publishing for the past four years a series of bibliographies of modern authors in very attractive format. At the outset, the plan was to include only the record of the work of distinctive contemporary American writers, but it has been found possible to extend the scope of the series. Accordingly, a bibliography of the writings of D. H. Lawrence was issued some months ago, and now "A Bibliography of the Writings of Norman Douglas," by Edward D. McDonald, with notes on the books by Mr. Douglas, has just been published. This work comprises 165 pages, giving complete collations of books and pamphlets, lists of periodical contributions and critical opinions of the author's work.

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Mr. Douglas's notes add materially to the value of the book, which altogether is a model of thoroness, giving the collector just the information that he needs. The book is published in two forms, a large paper edition limited to 100 copies, and a regular edition of 350 copies. The large paper edition is autographed by Mr. Douglas and Mr. McDonald and has a special binding.

MORE information is available concerning the Schomburg collection of negro literature and history which has been purchased for the New York Public Library thru the Carnegie Foundation. This great collection of books has been placed in the 135th Street branch close to the Harlem district, which is said to have the world's largest negro colony. There are 4,000 volumes in the collection, many written by negroes, and about 1,000 pamphlets and manuscripts. African folklore, art, dialects and the history of African and West Indian negroes are extensively covered. Pamphlets and manuscripts, the work of Northern negroes in their effort to abolish slavery from the early days of American colonization thru the Civil War, includes much unpublished material. Other source manuscripts on slavery and the "underground railway" opens additional fields of research. With the Schomburg collection as its nucleus, the 135th Street Library expects to build the most complete collection of books in existence by and about negroes. Arthur A. Schomburg, a Porto Rican, spent many years in assembling this collection, and it is provided that he will serve as adviser to the library regarding the expansion and service of this splendid negro collection.

MARCEL BLANCHETEAU, who is known to many booksellers in this country, because he lived for some time in New York and Chicago studying the American booktrade, has now issued his first announcement since his return to France. It is a very interesting catalog of books on fine and Applied Arts, History and Memories and Literature, with notes in English and prices in dollars. On the cover is the seal of the American Booksellers' Association. His address is 56 Faubourg Saint Honoré, Paris, France.

Auction Calendar

Monday evening, April 25th, at 8:15, and Tuesday afternoon and evening, April 26th, at 2:30 and 8:15. Library sets, first editions including the splendid library of Mrs. J. B. Finley of Pittsburgh; also, important selections from the libraries of Edwin J. Evans of London, and Stanley Spiegelberg of New York City, together with Richard Wagier's ms. of "The Rheingold" and a collection of his letters the property of Kurt Lehman of New York. (Items 690.) American Art Association, Inc., 30 East 57th St., New York City.

Wednesday afternoon, April 27th, at 2 o'clock. Portion of the library of S. G. Stein of Muscatine, Ia., including interesting and rare books on magic and religion, long runs of literary, bibliographical, scientific and Occult magazines, modern first editions, etc. (Items 307.) The Anderson Galleries, 489 Park Ave., New York City.

Thursday evening, April 28th, at 8:15. The Richard Curle Conrad Collection. American Art Association, 30 East 57th St., New York City.

Catalogs Received

Books, etchings, autographs, biographica, etc., of James McNeill Whistler. (No. 116; Items 107.) Walter M. Hill, 25 East Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

Books on insects, especially those of medical interest, Coleoptera, and scientific serials. (No. 24.) John D. Sherman, Jr., 132 Primrose Ave., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

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First editions of American authors. (Items 807.) Pegasus Bookshop, Inc., 31 East 60th St., New York City.

First editions of Dickens. E. P. Dutton & Co., 681 Fifth Ave., New York City.

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Illustrated books, limited editions, first editions, fine bindings, etc. (No. 14; Items 929.) The Argus Bookshop, 434 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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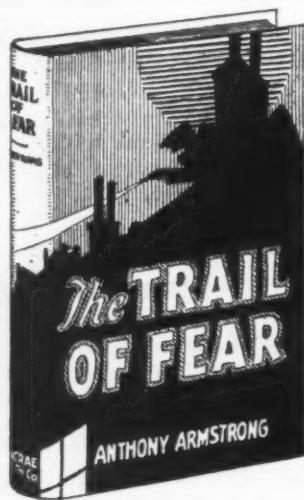
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